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MELROY ORDERS THOR AND JUPITER INTO PRODUCTION

1,500-Mile Missiles Will Be
At British Sites In '58,
He Tells Inquiry

NOT FULLY DEVELOPED

Allen Dulles Report on Soviet
"Steady" Nuclear Gains
Is Called "Shocking"

Excerpts from testimony are
printed on Page 2d.

By JACK RAYMOND

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The Secretary of Defense announced at the Senate defense hearing today that both the Thor and the Jupiter intermediate-range ballistic missiles had been authorized for eventual production.

The Secretary, Neil H. McElroy, pointed out to the Senate Preparedness subcommittee that either of the 1,500-mile weapons, developed in rivalry by the Air Force and Army, had been fully developed.

However, the decision to go ahead was considered "sound" to permit installation of the missiles on sites in Britain by the end of 1958, and other sites in Europe soon afterward, he explained.

"Good News" to Senator

"The statement you have made just now to the committee and to the country is good news," Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, chairman of the subcommittee, remarked.

Earlier, in closed session with Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, the committee heard a "sad and shocking story" in a comparison of this country's missile development with that of the Soviet Union.

Senator Stuart Symington, Democrat of Missouri, deplored the secret testimony in that fashion. He added, "the sooner the American people know about it, the better."

Senator Styles Bridges, a Republican of New Hampshire, said the committee had received "very unpleasant information." He added that when the committee submitted its report it would "shock any complacency out of various officials and the American public."

Mr. Dulles and Dr. Herbert Hoover, director of the Office of Scientific Intelligence of the C. I. A., discussed the "steady progress" of the Soviet atomic energy program in providing nuclear warheads for Russian missiles as well as other weapons, it was made known.

Russia's "boasting" discounted the presentation also covered Soviet bomber and submarine strength. It was disclosed. These aspects of Soviet military power were considered in terms of the potential Russian threat with such forces until Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles were assigned to operational forces.

But when Edwin L. Weil, chief counsel of the subcommittee, asked Secretary McElroy whether he agreed with the "boasting" of Nikita S. Khrushchev, Soviet Communist party leader, that Russia was now militarily stronger than this country, the response was emphatic:

"I don't take it seriously for five minutes—not even for one minute."

He conceded—as he has before—that the Soviet was "obviously" ahead of the United States in missiles that could put earth satellites into orbit and that they thus probably had a military applicability, too. But he would not endorse state-

ments that the Soviet led the race before him. He has a

United States no longer engaged in the race on intercontinental development.

Statements to that effect had been made by prominent witnesses since the hearings opened Monday. The Senate inquiry was prompted by the Soviet successes in launching two earth satellites.

Variety of Questions

Facing a Senate committee for the first time since he took over as Secretary of Defense last month Mr. McElroy had ready answers to a variety of questions, even those with a sharp political edge.

Except for the statement about the Thor and Jupiter missiles, which he read as the session began, Mr. McElroy had no

notes before him. He was accompanied by the session by

Donald A. Quarles, his deputy, and William N. Holaday, then director of missiles at the Pentagon. He turned to them occasionally for whispered advice.

In announcing the action on the two missiles Secretary McElroy said that the decision was taken "late last evening" as the result of "an intensive reassessment of our position" and the "success that has been achieved in the recent tests of both these missiles."

Ballistic missiles, unlike true guided missiles that are guided automatically with remote control, receive their power and guidance in the initial stage of flight. After that they follow a determined trajectory as do bombs shells.

Intermediate-range missiles, such as the Thor and Jupiter, are designed for distances of 1,500 miles. Intercontinental ballistic missiles, which the Russians say they have tested successfully and the United States still has in an early stage of development, are designed for distance of 8,000 miles.

Jupiter Failure Noted

Mr. Weil asked the Defense Secretary how he could refer to "successful tests" when this morning's newspapers reported an official announcement of a failure yesterday in the testing of a Jupiter. The Defense Secretary smiled as he replied that he referred to the test program

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